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EUR-01 HA-09 H-01 INRE-00 INR-01 L-03 ADS-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-01 PRS-01 P-01
RP-10 SNP-01 SP-01 SS-01 TRSE-00 T-01 USIE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1175

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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CORRECTED COPY (PARAS 2,3,4)

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PREL, RW

SUBJECT: ARUSHA TALKS REACH AGREEMENT ON TRUCE

REF: KIGALI 2790

1. (C) SUMMARY. RADIO RWANDA REPORTED AGREEMENT
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IN ARUSHA BETWEEN THE GOR AND THE RPF ON A 7-DAY
TRUCE, THE COMPOSITION OF A MULTINATIONAL OBSERVER
FORCE, FORMATION OF A MIXED COMMISSION AND FOLLOW-ON
POLITICAL TALKS TO TAKE PLACE NEXT MONTH. THE TWO
SIDES REPORTEDLY DISAGREED OVER WHEN TROOPS WOULD LAY
DOWN ARMS. THE TRUCE AGREEMENT IS TO BE SIGNED JULY
13 AND TAKE EFFECT JULY 19. A BBC REPORTER SAID THE
U.S. DELEGATION HAD INSISTED THAT THE RPF ACCEPT THE
TRUCE IN PLACE OF THE CEASEFIRE, WHICH IT HAD
REJECTED. LIBERAL PARTY CRITICISM OF RWANDA'S
FOREIGN MINISTER FOR LACK OF PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH
POLITICAL PARTIES SUGGESTS NGULINZIRA MAY HAVE TO DO
SOME POLITICAL CONSENSUS BUILDING PRIOR TO THE
FORTHCOMING POLITICAL TALKS. END SUMMARY.

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- 2. (U) A RADIO RWANDA CORRESPONDENT, REPORTING FROM ARUSHA, SAID THAT THE RPF AND THE GOR DELEGATIONS REACHED AGREEMENT AT THE JULY 10-12 TALKS ON A SEVEN DAY TRUCE TO TAKE EFFECT JULY 19. THE TRUCE IS TO BE FOLLOWED NEXT MONTH BY POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS. RWANDA HAS ASKED THE RPF DELEGATION FOR A DETAILED DOCUMENT OUTLINING ITS PROPOSALS FOR THE FUSION OF THE TWO ARMIES AND FOR RPF PARTICIPATION IN AN ENLARGED GOVERNMENT OF TRANSITION.
- 3. (U) THE TWO SIDES ALSO REPORTEDLY AGREED ON THE COMPOSITION OF A TRUCE OBSERVER GROUP. IT IS TO CONSIST OF FIVE RWANDANS, FIVE RPF AND TEN MEMBERS FROM THREE OTHER COUNTRIES, NAMELY NIGERIA, SENEGAL AND ZIMBABWE. THE GOR AND THE RPF ALSO AGREED TO FORM A CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION COMPOSED OF RWANDA, CONFIDENTIAL
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 THE RPF AND FRANCE, THE U.S., BELGIUM, UGANDA,
 BURUNDI, TANZANIA AND ZAIRE. THE RPF REPORTEDLY
 REJECTED ZAIRE AS PART OF THE TRUCE-MONITORING GROUP.
- 4. (U) DISAGREEMENT EMERGED OVER WHEN THE TROOPS WOULD LAY DOWN ARMS. REPORTS INDICATE THE RPF SAID IT WOULD LAY DOWN ARMS ONLY AFTER THE POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN CONCLUDED AND A PEACE AGREEMENT SIGNED. THE RWANDAN SIDE REPORTEDLY ARGUED FOR LAYING DOWN ARMS NOW, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE N'SELE AGREEMENT, TO FACILITATE THE POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS.
- 5. (U) BBC REPORTER, CATHERINE BOND, WHO USED TO BE BASED IN UGANDA, REPORTED THAT THE TRUCE AGREEMENT RESULTED FROM CONSIDERABLE OUTSIDE PRESSURE. SHE SAID THAT THE U.S. HAD TAKEN A QUOTE LEAD ROLE UNQUOTE IN INSISTING THAT THE RPF AGREE TO A TRUCE IN PLACE OF THE CEASEFIRE PROPOSAL WHICH IT HAD REJECTED. SHE ADDED THAT RWANDA'S NEIGHBORS, UGANDA AND TANZANIA, HAD ALSO ENCOURAGED THE RPF TO ACCEPT A TRUCE.
- 6. (U) BBC ALSO CARRIED INTERVIEWS WITH BOTH THE RWANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND AM RPF NEGOTIATOR. FOREIGN MINISTER NGULINZIRA WAS UPBEAT ABOUT THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED DURING THE TALKS. THE RPF SPOKESPERSON ACKNOWLEGED PROGRESS BUT WAS NOT AS CONFIDENT OR UPBEAT AS THE FOREIGN MINISTER.
- 7. (U) RADIO RWANDA REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF

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PRIVATE RWANDAN JOURNALISTS TRAVELLED TO ARUSHA TO CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 KIGALI 02866 01 OF 02 131948Z COVER THE CEASEFIRE TALKS. THE NEWSPAPERS REPRESENTED WERE ISIBO, IJAMBO, LE MESSAGER, RWANDA RUSHYA, KANGUKA, KIBERINKA, AND INTERAHAMWE. APPARENTLY EACH JOURNAL FINANCED THE TRAVEL OF ITS OWN REPORTER.

8. (C) LIBERAL PARTY LEADER, JUSTIN MUGENZI, CRITICIZED OF FOREIGN MINISTER NGULINZIRA IN A CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE DURING THE WEEKEND FOR NOT COORDINATING THE GOVERNMENT'S NEGOTIATING POSITION WITH THE POLITICAL PARTIES. MUGENZI COMPLAINED THAT NGULINZIRA HAD DISCUSSED THE CEASEFIRE TALKS WITH POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS ONLY THE NIGHT BEFORE LEAVING

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FOR TANZANIA. MUGENZI RESENTED THE TALKS BEING TREATED AS A TECHNICAL MATTER INSTEAD OF A POLITICAL MATTER. HE ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF NOT LISTENING TO THE PARTIES, AND SAID THE FOREIGN MINISTER

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APPEARED TO CONSIDER HIMSELF ABOVE THE PARTIES.

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9. (C) COMMENT. IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THE TWO
SIDES HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON A TRUCE AND ON
MEETING AGAIN FOR FOLLOW-ON POLITICAL TALKS. IF
MUGENZI'S CRITICISM OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER IS SHARED
BY OTHER POLITICAL LEADERS, FOREIGN MINISTER
NGULINZIRA MAY HAVE TO DO SOME POLITICAL CONSENSUS
BUILDING FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION PRIOR TO THE
FORTHCOMING POLITICAL TALKS. ANY AGREEMENT TO BRING
THE RPF INTO THE TRANSITION GOVERNMENT WOULD AFFECT
THE 5-PARTY PROTOCOL GOVERNING THE TRANSITION
PERIOD. END COMMENT.
LEADER

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